Even Lady Bird Is Writing Furiously

Johnson Lays Aside Polls for Best-Seller Book Lists

AUSTIN, Tex. Oct. 4— Surrounded as he is by literary activity, former President Lyndon Baines Johnson no longer watches the Gallup Poll, he told a luncheon crowd here today.

"Now I look at the best-seller list," he said.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson came from the LBJ ranch to help University ofs texas officials thank W. Pat Jennings, clerk of the House of Representatives, for transferring 12,500 volumes of congressional publications from his storerooms to the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library.

The collection includes Congressional Records dating back to the Continental Congress. University of Texas officials found the books deteriorating in dusty Capitol basements. They found that they were among the copies assigned to the clerk of the House so Jennings agreed to put them in the Presidential library.

Former Rep. Joe Kilgore, now a university regent, said the records make a collection found nowhere else except in the National Archives and Library of Congress.

The Presidential library is being built on the university campus along with an adjoining building to house the Lyndon Baines Johnson School of Public Affairs.

Chancellor Harry Ranson of the University of Texas system described the pape's as a "two-century-old commentary on the sense of what America is about."

Mr. Johnson was in a joival mood at the luncheon. He mentioned that books are being written by George Christian, his former press secretary; by Liz Carpenter, Mrs. Johnson's former press secretary; by his brother, Sam Houston Johnson, and by Mrs. Johnson.

He said Mrs. Johnson had three books under way and already has written a million and a half words.

"Her book is the one that really worries me," he said.

Mr. Johnson said the first volume of his memoirs would be finnished shortly. The $1.5 million for which is has been sold will help endow the School of Public Affairs.

"Everybody is writing a book except my ranch manager, and he's so busy that he doesn't have time to," he said.

"But I noticed he has just been elected president of the local club to get Johnson back to Washington quickly."